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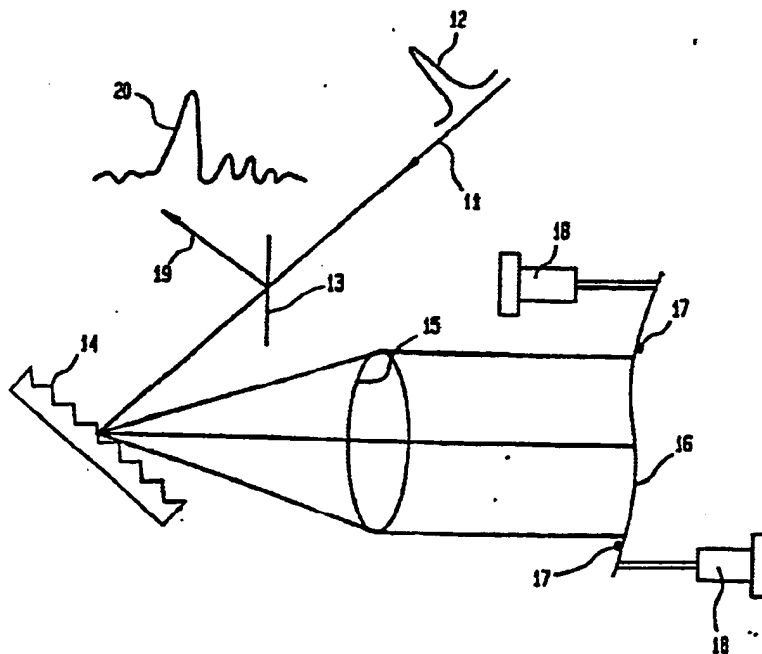
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(54) Title: OPTICAL PULSE-SHAPING DEVICE AND METHOD, AND OPTICAL COMMUNICATIONS STATION AND METHOD

(57) Abstract

For use, e.g., in the compensation of frequency dispersion in the course of transmission of an optical signal, a pulse-shaping device is provided with a suitably shaped nonplanar mirror (16). When spatially spread-out frequency components - produced, e.g., by a grating (14) - are reflected from such mirror, a frequency-dependent phase shift is introduced; for example, such phase shift may be a third-order function of frequency. Upon recombination of frequencies, a shaped pulse is obtained. Furthermore, third-order compensation can be used to compress amplified light pulses, e.g. as produced by a semiconductor gain medium (80, 81).



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